



# AGM 2024

**Jamaican Canadian Community Centre**

995 Arrow Road, Toronto, ON

[www.jcaontario.org](http://www.jcaontario.org)

[membership@jcaontario.org](mailto:membership@jcaontario.org)

416.746.5772



**Celebrating over 60 years  
as the community hub**





## 2023 – 2024 Team



### Board of Directors

**David Betty** *President*  
**Michelle McKenzie-Dolly** *Vice-President*  
**Audrey Miller-Raybould** *Executive Secretary*  
**Dorrett Mellis-Thompson** *Treasurer*  
**Kashane Denton** *Communications*  
**Michelle Davis** *Director of Fundraising*  
**Benito Palomino** *Director-At-Large*  
**Charles Gordon** *Director-At-Large*  
**Horace Wright** *Director-At-Large*

#### Ex-Officio Members

**Adaoma Patterson** *Past President*



### Committee Chairs

**Herrol Mattocks** *Building Chair*  
**Janet Samms** *Membership Events*  
**Lisa Rutty** *Membership Services*  
**Pam Reynolds** *Caribbean-Canadian Seniors Club*  
**Charmaine Jackson & Andrine White** *(Chairs)*  
**Caribbean International Students Group**  
**Phiona Lloyd-Henry** *Education & Culture*  
**Camille Hannays-King** *Women's Committee*  
**Yolande Davidson** *Scholarship Committee*

### Staff & Contractors

**Jennifer McFarlane** *Building Operator*  
**Aida Kurman-Galiyeva** *Bookkeeper*

#### Custodial Contractors

**Desmond Marrick**  
**Cavin Johnson**  
**Renford Whyte**  
**Wayne Emmanuel**

## Table of Contents

### Jamaican Canadian Association Annual General Meeting Report Sunday, May 26, 2024

#### 1. Board of Directors Reports

- **President** – David Betty
- **Vice President** – Michelle McKenzie-Dolly
- **Director of Fundraising** – Michelle Davis
- **Director of Communications** – Kashane Denton
- **Director at Large** – Benito Palomino
- **Director at Large** – Charles Gordon
- **Director at Large** – Horace Wright

#### 2. 2023 – 2024 Audited Statement

#### 3. Committee Reports

- **Building Chair** - Herrol Mattocks
- **Caribbean-Canadian Seniors Club** – Pam Reynolds
- **Caribbean International Students Group**  
- Charmaine Jackson & Andrine White
- **Education & Culture** – Phiona Lloyd Henry
- **Membership Events** – Janet Samms (Interim)
- **Membership Services** – Lisa Rutty
- **Women's Committee** – Camille Hannays-King (Interim)

#### 4. 2023 – 2024 Donors and Volunteers

#### 5. Upcoming Events

**62<sup>nd</sup>**  
*Gala*  
Saturday  
August 10<sup>th</sup>  
2024

*Anniversary*

**SAVE.  
THE.  
DATE.**

Tickets on  
sale shortly



*Celebrating over  
60 years as the  
community hub*



Strategic Priority Areas

YOUTH

- INCREASE ENGAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS UNDER 35 YEARS OLD**
- Continued Support of the International Student Group
  - Partnering with Humber College on the “Bridging the employability gap for international learners through integrated solutions” project. This project will address the challenges faced by international students as they integrate into Canadian society.

COMMUNITY HUB

- PROVIDING A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY**
- Increased investment in the JCA Centre
  - Introduction of technological solutions in hall rental process – work-in-progress.
  - Upgrading our telephony system – introduction of voice of internet protocol (VOIP).

ADVOCACY

- INCREASE OUR PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATIONS**
- Continued collaboration with the Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) to document our communities’ history
  - Working with the Toronto Police Services (TPS) to deepen the understanding of the race-based data results and policy implications
  - Renewed focus on healthcare, health equity and justice
  - Deepening of the partnership with Toronto Police Services – Division 31

EDUCATION

- INCREASE OUR SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**
- Creation of adult literacy classes/citizenship classes
  - Continue to grow the JCA Scholarship Program
  - Sustain growth of the Saturday Morning Tutorial Program
  - Deepen the conversation and support to Black parents in navigating the school system

Summary of Activities for Last Year

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Scholarships                          | 50 (same as last year) |
| Scholarship Donors                    | 34 (decrease by 5)     |
| Retained Donors                       | 351                    |
| Reactivated Donors                    | 42                     |
| New Donors                            | 12                     |
| Number of Building Projects Completed | 5                      |
| Number of Partners & Collaborators    | 1                      |



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS



President | David BettyREPORT

Acknowledgements

- The founders and co-founders of the Jamaican Canadian Association, on whose shoulders we all stand.
- The current and past board of directors for their selfless contributions to the growth and development of the organization
- Our committee chairs and committee members for your stick-to-it attitudes and mission focus.
- The many donors who give through thick and thin.
- JCA members, both longstanding and new; the longstanding for their commitment to the vision and the new members for embracing the JCA vision and placing their trust in the organization and its leadership.
- The Jamaica Tourist Board for its continued support.
- Grace Foods Canada Inc and staff for being always ready to support us when called on.
- Afri-Can Food Basket for supporting and partnering with us on numerous occasions throughout the year.
- Past president Adaoma Patterson for her continued support to me personally, her support to the board and to the many committees that she remains a part of.
- Past president Audrey Campbell for her support, guidance and for spearheading the charge in support of Stacey Clarke
- Past president Roy Williams for his mentorship and support.
- Past president Herman Stewart for his wisdom and historic perspective.
- Past president Dr. Vincent Conville for always bring ready to step in at moment’s notice.
- The Saturday Morning Tutorial Programme coordinator and tutors who consistently “show up” for our students every Saturday and in some cases, provide additional support and mentorship.
- Thanks to the management and staff of CAFCAN who continue to support us when our patrons come knocking on the wrong door, need support or just need clarification or directions.
- Special thank you to the Building Committee and to its Chair, Herrol jeaMattocks, for their continued assistance in keeping our many projects on track as well as keeping the many facets of the building functional.
- Dr. Sylvanus Thompson for his support continued support of the SeroMark project.
- Thanks to Yolande Davidson for keeping the JCA Scholarship programme going under trying circumstances.
- Herrol Mattocks, Jennifer McFarlane and Aida Kurman-Galiyeva for overseeing and supporting our operations.
- Desmond Marriot, Cavin Johnson, and Wayne Emmanuel for ensuring the protection of the organization’s largest asset; the JCA Centre, while continuing to provide our patrons with outstanding service in a hospitable environment.

“ Last year this time I reported that we were back to fifty percent (50%) of our 2019 hall rental business. I am happy to report that we are back to pre-pandemic volumes. What a difference a year makes!



President's Report continued

Successes and Accomplishments

THE JCA CENTRE – The Hub of the Community

While we continue to work with the management and staff of the Caribbean African Canadian Social Services (CAFCAN) on serval operational and logistic concerns, we can report that they have resumed full operations.

The Toronto District School Board continues to occupy the northwest section of the Centre.

The Afri-Can Food Basket continues to use Hall 3 for packaging of produce. We have also started preliminary conversations aimed at examining opportunities for partnership where synergies are identified.



Building Renovations

The JCA entered into a bartering agreement with the African Canadian Lions Circle (the Lions Circle), wherein the Lions Circle can use the space for bi-weekly meetings in exchange for skilled and unskilled labour as needed. This novel approach to ensuring continuous maintenance has been bearing fruit in basic repairs like drywalling and painting. We are confident that the potential is there for this opportunity to make even greater contributions to the maintenance of the Centre.

I am happy to report that improvements to the Centre continued during the year with the following projects:

1. The parking lot has received a long overdue facelift with the repaving and the marking of the parking spaces and the no-parking areas.
2. The refinishing of the kitchen floor, the ice machine room, adjoining bathrooms and passageways to the kitchen rear door and outside the bathrooms serving Halls 2 and 3.

3. Replacement of the analog telephone system with a new voice over internet protocol (VOIP). This new system, which is more cost effective, will allow us to utilize several new features including the auto-attendant. This capability allows us to re-route calls internally and externally. Once we have ironed out the kinks, we will be able to take advantage of the many new capabilities including the ability to forward calls not intended for us but are more in line with the services that CAFCAN or the Jamaican Consulate to Toronto offer.
4. We repainted the halls in preparation for the JCA anniversary and Independence Gala
5. We scoped the sewerage systems and were able to determine that while we are not free from blockage the most chronic issue lies on the outside of the building envelope and not underneath the building.

A number of these activities were funded in part or totally by grants secured by our fundraising director. I would therefore like to say a big thank you to our Fundraising Director, Michelle Davis, Marsha Virgo-Downswell – our first and former Operations Manager, former building chair and Acting Operations Supervisor, Herrol Mattocks, our Building Committee, and our many donors and volunteers!



Operations Manager Position

Our recent Operations Manager position, or maybe our first Operations Manager in the history of the organization, was funded byway of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) Resilient Communities Grant for one year and so in July, we recognized **Marsh Virgo-Downswell's** contribution to the organization in a small event at JCA where we were able to say thank you to Marsha and to the OTF for its contribution to the JCA's resilience.

MEMBERSHIP

Annual Picnic

The membership was treated to an evening of fun at the JCA as the Vice-President. Michelle McKenzie-Dolly and her team, which included Director-at-Large, Charles Gordon insisted that we could not close out the year without celebrating our members. It was an event of games, laughter, and karaoke. The karaoke was a big hit and there is talk about our first season of JCA's Got Talent!!

Our annual picnic saw us heading west along the 403 on a sunny July morning. This time around, we all gathered at scenic Niagara Parks' Kingsbridge Park, Niagara Falls for a day of fun and relaxation. It is with nostalgia that I recall our own Director-at-Large, Charles Gordon who darned his apron and became chef Gordon and served us a flavourful pot of soup and the impromptu "sound clash – three the hard-way."

Flag Raising Ceremony

Jamaica's 61st Anniversary Flag Raising Ceremony returned to the Jamaican Canadian Centre with all its pomp and pageantry, as we honored Pam Reynolds for her many years of service to the Flag Raising Committee by providing her with the distinct honour of hoisting the Jamaican flag.





President's Report continued

Jamaica 61st Independence Celebration

We commemorated the 61st Anniversary of our establishment and Jamaica's independence under the theme of "resilience and perseverance." As is customary since the inception of the Jamaican Canadian Association, this was a day of grandeur and magnificence, and the evening was nothing short of that expectation.

The Denham Jolly Hall was adorned with the colours of black, green and gold, and our attendees, acquaintances, and invitees adorned themselves in a manner that was as exquisite as the embellishments of the hall. This splendid occurrence featured an opulent cultural display, complemented by delectable cuisine and amiable companionship.

The highlight of the night was the keynote address delivered by the Associate Chief Justice, The Honourable Aston Hall. It was a heartfelt message that inspired us all to reflect on the journey of our great nation, the struggles we have faced as a people, and the progress we have made over the past 61 years. Her Excellency reminded all of us of our duty as citizens of Jamaica, whether we live here in Canada or back home on the island, to work together towards achieving our collective goals and building a stronger Jamaica culture at home and abroad.

As the night drew to a close, we were all left with a feeling of pride and belonging that comes with being a part of the Jamaican Canadian community. We celebrated our past, present, and future, and reminded ourselves that no matter what challenges we may face, we will always be resilient and persistent in our pursuit of a brighter tomorrow.



Annual Scholarship Awards Program

Our 21st Annual Scholarship award dinner with the theme "Building Legacy and the Next Generation – Passing The Baton" was another successful event in challenging times. We equaled the number of scholarships of the previous year but also were fortunate to welcome 12 new donors to the program. We were also, for the first time, able to employ technology to assist us in parts of the process. We also recognize that further technological solutions will be needed as we continue to grow the number of donors and scholarships.



**21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**CREATING A BRIGHTER FUTURE !**

Over 40 Unique Student Scholarships To Be Awarded

**Awards Ceremony with Dinner & Dance**  
Saturday September 23, 2023  
6:00 pm



Event Host  
Sammierae



Keynote  
Ryan Knight



**Jamaican Canadian Association**  
ESTABLISHED 1962

The hub of community engagement since 1962

<https://jcaontario.org/scholarship/jcaannualscholarships>  
scholarships@jcaontario.org

  
@jamaicancanadianassociation

Tickets \$80

Membership Service

Thanks to Lisa Rutty and her team, we took the show on the road, as we joined her team on roller skates in Brampton.

Celebrating The Regional Tourist Board – Canada Accomplishments

- 8 -



## President's Report continued

### Boonoonoonos Black History Month Celebration

In 2024 we reflected on the theme: "Black Resistance." It was an ode to the resilience and determination of our ancestors who fought against oppression and injustice, paving the way for the progress and triumphs we enjoy today. We not only recognized the shoulders on which we stand and our responsibility to continue their legacy of resilience and resistance in our own lives. We were taken down memory lane by none more competent to do so than Dr. Jean Augustine, who founded the pavement to ensure BHM is celebrated at all levels in Canada.

Dr. Augustine, in her keynote, reminded us that while we honour our past, we must also look to the future. She drew on the national theme for 2024, "Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate, A Future to Build," and called on us to not only recognize the amazing accomplishments of Black Canadians but also to aspire to even greater heights. She reminded us that we must embrace new opportunities, challenge ourselves, and forge a path toward even more remarkable achievements.



### International Women's Day Brunch

The theme for 2024's International Women's Day was "Investing in Women: Accelerate Progress." It was a call to action for everyone – governments, businesses, community organizations, and individuals – to come together and create an equal and inclusive society where women and girls can thrive.

As we witness the incredible accomplishments of women in various fields, from science and technology to sports and arts, breaking barriers, and shattering glass ceilings. There is still much work to be done to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls across the world.

In the spirit of International Women's Day, we recognized and celebrated five (5) extraordinary women who have not only excelled in their respective fields but have also inspired others to reach their full potential. However, as we celebrated those remarkable women and their achievements, we are reminded of the need to invest in women as the best way to invest in our collective future. We are very aware that the empowerment of women and girls will create a more equitable and prosperous society for everyone.



## ADVOCACY

### Education Committee's Panel Discussion - Black Students in the Education System

A major plank of the JCA's broad mandate is advocacy and one sure way to advocate is by empowering others to advocate for themselves. It was with this belief in mind that the Education Committee, led by our very capable Phiona Lloyd-Henry, Committee Chair organized a panel discussion to discuss what Black parents need in their tool kits to assist their child or children to effectively navigate the education system.

### Toronto Police Services

Toronto Police Services is mandated by way of the Anti-Racism Act of 2017 to collect race-based data for the purpose of eliminating systemic racism and advancing racial equity. Phase 1 commenced in January 2020 with the collection of perceived race data for Use of Force and Strip Searches interactions and the data were released in 2022. Phase 2 commenced in January 2021 to include arrests and arrest outcomes, mental health apprehensions, and youth diversions and these data were released in 2023. The data analysis provided the Black community along with other racialized communities with a stark reminder that without perseverance there can be no victory. We continue to sit at the table to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and to influence the policy outcomes.

### Superintendent Stacy Clarke

The Jamaican Canadian Association demonstrated their support by arriving in large numbers at Superintendent Clarke's sentencing hearing. The JCA Seniors, which included our inaugural president, Roy Williams, were compelled to recollect and revisit activities that resembled a bygone era on May 5th, 2024.

## Community Call To Action - Support Stacy Clarke

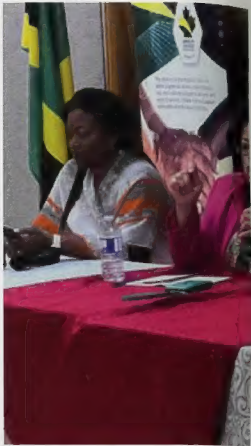






Caribbean International Students Group

We joined the staff of Humber College at the launch of the “Bridging the employability gap for international learners through integrated solutions” project. This project will address the challenges faced by international students as they integrate into Canadian society. The hope is that by working with private and public partners we can develop a model that can be used across the country to integrate international students into the Canadian mosaic.



The hub of community engagement since 1962

f t i  
@jca\_ontario

SMTIP CONTACT INFO

Jamaican Canadian Centre  
995 Arrow Road, Toronto, ON  
www.jcaontario.org/smtip  
smtip@jcaontario.org

Get help with your homework and participate in hands-on, practical and relevant real-life experiential learning.

In-person & virtual sessions

SMTIP PROGRAM DETAILS

Students will engage in projects and activities relating to financial literacy, culture, public speaking and development of 21st century skills. There are specific workshops related to skills, career and networking development, including soft-skills training and hearing from experts in a variety of professions.

SMTIP PROGRAM HOURS

We offer assistance with homework and academic enrichment. Classes will be held in-person. Session times will vary based on students' developmental level. Session times will be confirmed by the Coordinator.

Registration is \$50 for the year.

Sept - June



Tutoring available for students in grades 1 to 12.

Motivation

Guidance

Goal setting



students

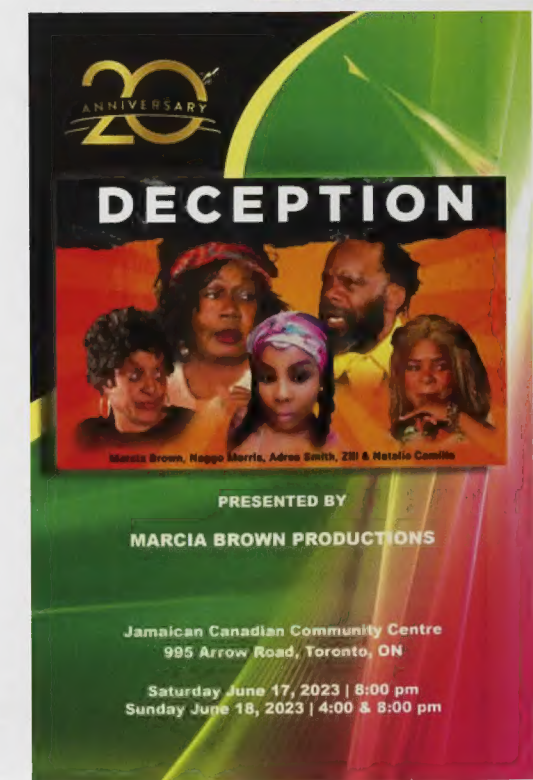
Ready to learn? Get ready to succeed.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2023 Toronto Mayoral Debate

The JCA partnered with First Friday to hear from the mayoral candidates vying for the top job at the City of Toronto a vacancy that arose with the sudden resignation of Mayor Tory. We all gathered at the Tropicana Community Room at the Tropicana Community Services' Head Office to have a frank conversation facilitated by Attorney-at-Law Rocco Achampong.



Marcia Brown Production's "Deception"

In June 2023, we also partnered with Marcia Brown who brought to us another riveting play entitled "Deception" which captured the challenges many from the diaspora face when they try to build a home in their home country while burning the candle at both end in their adopted country and how in many cases the betrayal is close to home.

Mayor Olivia Chow

The electorate elected Olivia Chow to be Toronto's 66th mayor and the first person of Asian descent to serve as mayor. Mayor Chow is also the first woman to serve as Mayor since amalgamation in 1998. The JCA did pause to congratulate Mayor Chow.



CONGRATS  
MAYOR ELECT  
OLIVIA CHOW

As an association representing the Jamaican Canadian community, we are excited to see the positive impact you will undoubtedly have on our community. We believe that your diverse background and experiences will bring a fresh perspective to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We are confident that you will be a strong advocate for the needs and concerns of our community, and we look forward to working closely with you to address them.



The Changing of the Guards at the Jamaican High Commission and Toronto Consulate

The Jamaican Canadian Association collaborated with the Friends of Jamaica to bid adieu to the outgoing High Commissioner, Sharon Miller, and Consul General Lincoln Downer, whilst extending a warm reception to the newly appointed High Commissioner, Marsha Coore Lobban, and Consul General, Kurt Davis.

These events were packed with members of the Jamaican community from all over the city, as well as distinguished guests. Friends and colleagues of the outgoing officials took the opportunity to express their gratitude for their service and their contributions made to the Jamaican community in Toronto and Canada.

In her farewell speech, High Commissioner Miller thanked everyone for their support and expressed her deep love for the Jamaican community across Canada. She highlighted her dedication and commitment to facilitating a stronger relationship between Jamaica and Canada. She also spoke about the importance of cultural exchange and the role it plays in strengthening ties between nations.

Consul General Downer followed with his own emotional speech, expressing his gratitude to the Jamaican community in Toronto for their support during his tenure. He stressed the importance of community building and praised the efforts of the various organizations working tirelessly to improve the lives of Jamaicans in Toronto.

And in similar fashion Jamaicans from across the city and beyond came out in vast numbers to welcome the newly appointed officials with warm greetings. High Commissioner Lobban and Consul General Davis expressed their excitement to take on their new positions and continue building strong relationships with the Jamaican communities in Canada. They also highlighted the importance of working together to promote the interests of Jamaica in Canada.

Overall, both receptions were successful, demonstrating the strong bond between Jamaica and the Jamaican Diaspora and we at the JCA were happy we could make a significant contribution to the success of both events.





President's Report continued

Community Organization Summer Social

We wrapped up August by attending the community organization summer social held at Kitchen 24, which was organized by MP Judy Sgro. Here we were able to sit down with other organization leads and break bread, reminisce on our challenges, and celebrate our successes.



Donovan 'Razor' Ruddock – Jamaican Canadian Boxer



Jamaica National Awards – 2023

The Awardees were:

**Eddie Grant** - Badge of Honour for Long Faithful Service in photojournalism and documenting development of the Diaspora Community in Toronto.

**Derrick McIntouch** - Badge of Honour for Long & Faithful Service to the Consulate General of Jamaica in Toronto and the Jamaican Diaspora in the Greater Toronto Area.

**Bishop James Robinson** – Order of Distinction in the rank of Commander for his contribution to the Jamaican Diaspora in the area of religion, civic advocacy and counselling.



Jamaica Regional Tourist Board Judith Baxter Award





Canadian International Student Group Event (CISG)  
- Nacore Stewart - Police Officer



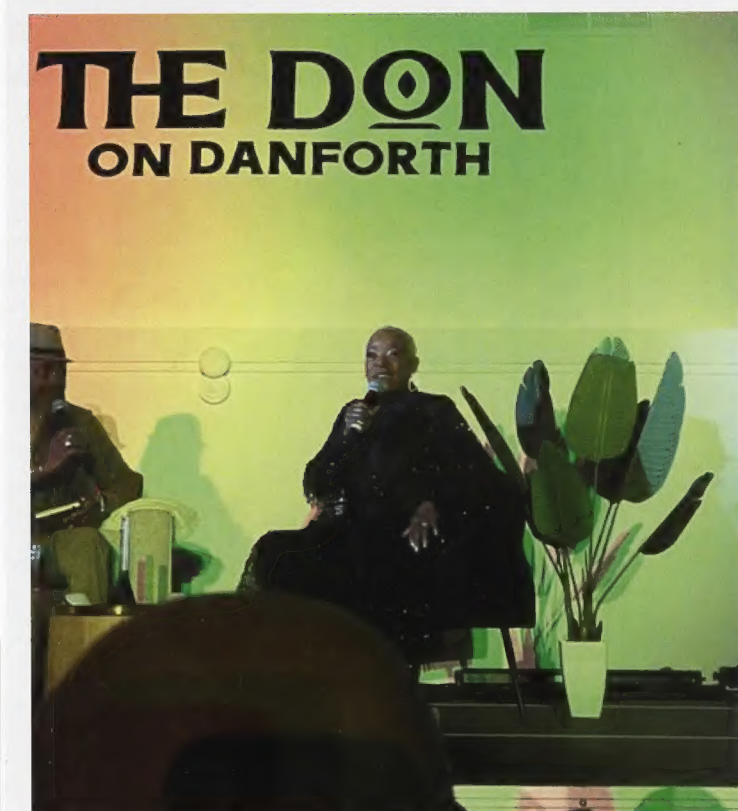
And so, we started the calendar year with a focus on Men's Health!!



Black History Month @ Toronto Police Services



Canadian Friends of St. Thomas Health Care Organization



Hanging out with Sharon Marley,  
Daughter of Bob Marley on Bob's Birthday



Celebrating with the BBPA



Celebrating with Herma Collins on her birthday



Celebrating with Knox Past Students' Association

### Action Items from Previous Quarterly Meetings

Regrettably, we were unable to conclude the Strategy Report pursuant to our initial plan. Nonetheless, I am pleased to apprise you that we have successfully procured contributions from numerous stakeholders, ensuring the assimilation of all perspectives into a comprehensive blueprint which shall govern our actions for the ensuing 3-5 years.





**Vice President | Michelle McKenzie-Dolly**

## REPORT

### Acknowledgements

- All JCA Board colleagues for their unwavering dedication to the mission, vision and values of the JCA, and for always going above and beyond in all their efforts.
- Sincere gratitude to our Executive Secretary Audrey Miller-Raybould for all her years of service.
- Special acknowledgement to the following Board Members
  - Fund Raising Director, Michelle Davis for all her efforts in securing funding allowing us to move forward with numerous initiatives
  - Director Charles Gordon for taking the helm and leading the charge on Men's Health Initiatives
  - Director Horace Wright for helping us to bridge the technology gap; exiting things to come!
- Immediate Past President Adaoma Patterson for her continued guidance and mentorship as we continue to build the organization. Thanking her for working on the long-awaited Adult Education Program
- Herrol Mattocks for taking on the challenge of interim Building Operations Supervisor and leading numerous building improvement initiatives
- All Committee Chairs for keeping members engaged and carrying the weight of the organization by supporting all programs and events
- Pamela Reynolds, Sharon Bowen and Ken Bowen for leading the Caribbean Seniors Club.
- Prudence Betty for consistently going beyond the call of duty to coordinate the activities of the Saturday Morning Tutorial Program. She is supported by Education Chair Fiona Lloyd Henry and a small army of volunteers.
- Leighton Henry; Charmaine Jackson and Feona Thornhill – Anderson for supporting the International Students Group up to the point of transition to Charmaine Jackson, Andrienne White
- Janet Samms for serving as interim Membership Events Chair and leading the Christmas Program
- Special recognition for Mr. Gifford Walker who has served as resident Santa Claus since the inception of the Christmas Program
- Lisa Ratty and the Membership Services Team for all the strides that they have made in increasing membership and improving service to our members
- Camille Hannays - King for bridging the gap and servicing as interim Women's Committee Chair. Congratulations on an amazing International Women's Day event.
- Audrey Campbell and the Nominations Committee for the high level of efficiency and professionalism that they bring to the Board Recruitment Process
- Dr. Sylvanus Thompson for his ongoing support of all programs, inclusive of Health Initiatives; Co-Chairing Boonoonoonos Black History Month and Jamaica Independence Event, Managing the virtual Spelling Bee Event and for generally going above and beyond in supporting all activities this year.
- All members of the Boonoonoonos; Flag Raising and JCA Anniversary/Jamaica Independence Gala Committees for consistently supporting these events. Acknowledging:
  - Shalieann Brown for leading the Flag Raising Committee
  - Shauna Kaye Cassell and Keisha Wright for leading the Annual Family Picnic
  - Barabara Thomas and Hyacinth Wilson for leading the JCA Annual Seniors Brunch
- Yolande Davis for all her efforts in consistently improving on the delivery of scholarships to vulnerable students in our community
- Director of Fund-Raising Michelle Davis for leading the Annual Walk-a-thon Committee. Congratulations on all the enhancements you have made to that program
- Our support staff Operations Supervisor Herrol Mattocks; Accounting Aida Kurman-Galiyeva; Hall Rental Coordinator Jennifer McFarlane and all our custodians for supporting the operations of the business
- The International Student Volunteers for coming onboard and showing an interest in the work of the JCA, giving us hope for the future!
- Kellie Spence of Kydiaz for supporting out marketing material

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

#### Culture

- Co-chaired Jamaica Independence/JCA Anniversary celebration and Boonoonoonos Black History Month Celebration with Dr. Sylvanus Thompson
- Supported Jamaica Independence Flag Raising Ceremony

#### Community Hub

- Supported Walk-A-thon Committee
- Facilitated All Committees Meeting and Social events
- Provided leadership support to the Membership Events committee and assisted in facilitating the Membership Social and the upcoming Membership Summer Picnic
- Supported Community Health Fairs and other Cultural initiatives
- Represented the JCA and several community events
- Supported the Strategic Planning Sessions

#### Human Resources

- Spearheaded recruitment and of JCA Summer Students
- Supported the hiring of JCA Operations Supervisor
- Coordinated Technology Training for all current committee chairs
- Coordinated Board/Committees Leadership Christmas Dinner

### Synopsis of Standing Committees Activities

I will give a synopsis of the amazing work done by the Standing Committees to support the strategic pillars of the JCA (Youth; Community Hub; Advocacy and Education). The standing committees are Building; Education & Culture; Membership Events; Membership Services; Youth Affairs and Women's Committees. The Building Committee reports to the Treasurer. The Caribbean Seniors Club and International Students Group are officially Standing Committees but are provided the same level of support.

Sincere gratitude to all the members of the Standing Committees and all other committees who work tirelessly to maintain the level of engagement that we achieved over the year. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of Lisa Ratty. She has a clear vision for Membership Services and under her leader we made great strides in the right direction. Also acknowledging Camille Hannays- King, Chair, Women's Committee, who returned as committee chair after the elected chair last year became unavailable due to changes in her work commitment. Similarly, Janet Samms stepped up and served as Membership Committee Chair up to December, allowing us to deliver on our major projects this year.

#### Community Hub

- **Caribbean International Students Group (CISG)**  
Co-Chairs Charmaine Jackson and Feona Thornhill-Anderson

The International Students Group went through a leadership transition this year. We acknowledge the work of Leighton Henry; Charmaine Jackson and Feona Thornhill-Anderson for their leadership of the CISG and that former leaders' foundation members Charmaine Jackson and Andrienne White for returning to the helm and continuing to support this group. They currently support over 400 students. Please reach out if you have employment, or mentorship opportunities for these college and University students.

- **Caribbean Seniors Club**  
Chair - Pam Reynolds

Our seniors are very active; they are happy to once again be out in the community on various excursions. Dr. Thompson has been very supportive this year arranging different health initiatives to support their physical and mental wellbeing. They have gone to watch different films and done field trips in the community inclusive of a recent trip to Ripley Aquarium.

- **Membership Events Committee**  
Interim Chair - Janet Samms

The Membership Committee was very active for most of the year.

- The JCA Annual Family Picnic at Kingsbridge Park in Niagara was well supported with lots of new faces. We hope everyone will plan to attend again this year.



## Vice President Report continued

- o The Seniors Brunch was absolutely amazing! Sincere gratitude to the Caribbean Seniors Club for collaborating on this event
- o The Annual Christmas Children's Party was well attended. Thanking Janet Samms for leading this event and Gifford Walking for reporting to duty as the resident Santa Claus since the inception of the program

### • Membership Services Committee

Chair - Lisa Rutty

The committee has been focused on increasing active members in the organization. In an effort to do this they have been working on strategies to attract and retain members. Among them is a discount for any JCA Member who needs to use the Park N Fly services at any airport across Canada. Access to this perk is available to all active members.

### • Women's Committee

Interim Chair - Camille Hannays King

Women's Committee has been very active. In addition to the amazing International Women's Day Brunch on 10th March and their annual Health and Wellness activities, they hosted a social event for their committee members. They had an elegant affair with a private executive chef preparing dinner for them at the home of the Committee Chair.

### • Youth

Youth Committee (Vacant)

We have been challenged to attract and retain young people (ages 16-29) to the organization. I ask that all members try to engage the youth in their networks and invite them to step forward.

### • Advocacy

Education Committee - facilitated an insightful panel discussion on the state of education for black children.

### • Education

- **Education Committee** - realized a total of 57 students enrolled. This is an increase of 3.5% year over year. The hybrid system allows for greater reach serving students from all over the GTA, one recent registrant in Manitoba and one in Jamaica.
- Sincere appreciation to Immediate Past President, Adaoma Patterson for leading this initiative. This initiative will support the conversations that we have been having regarding Canadian Citizenship preparation for our community.



## Action Items from Previous Quarterly Meetings

The Adult Education Program is in the ideation phase.

## Upcoming Events

- July 14 - JCA Annual Membership Family Picnic
- August 4 - Flag Raising Ceremony will be at JCA on August 6, arrival by 11:30pm –
- Ceremony starts at 12pm
- Jamaica 62nd Independence Church Service at West Toronto Church of God
- August 11 Independence Gala; the theme will be announced soon







Director of Fundraising | Michelle Davis

## REPORT

### Acknowledgements

- I wish to thank the Board Directors for their unwavering commitment and support. Without them, we would not accomplish as much as we do.
- Deep appreciation to members of the Walk Good Walkathon Planning Committee. The members are Olivia Hedge, Lisa Crowell, Eunice Graham, Audrey Campbell, Herrol Mattocks, JCA Building Chair, Sandra Young, JCA Membership Events Chair, Adaoma Patterson, JCA Past President, David Betty, President, Michelle Dolly McKenzie, JCA Vice-President and myself

### Overview of Year – May 2023 to April 2024

The past year has been incredibly busy for the JCA in terms of fundraising. Below is a summary of the activities completed.

#### I. FUNDRAISING EVENTS

i. The 41st annual WALK GOOD WALKATHON 2023 event was held on Sunday, May 7. We exceeded our fundraising goal of \$20,000 and raised \$23,454.95 with 435 donors! The fabulous Samantha-Rae Mclean was our MC and did an incredible job keeping us engaged and entertained. The Ardenne Alumni Association joined us at the Centre and walked with us. Jamaica Foundation Hamilton walked in Hamilton and using the brand-new AV system in hall 1, we streamed the Walk live on YouTube as we walked the 5 km route.

The MPP, MP, and City Councillor joined us for the warm-up and Epiphany Restaurant donated chicken wings and festival for the Walkers. We added a wellness component, and the Northwest Toronto Health Team joined us, as did The Walnut Foundation. the Caribbean Camera newspaper wrote an article about the event. We gave away the following prizes:

- a. Fastest Walkers: 5 km  
1st was Warren Ward, 2nd was Herman Stewart, and 3rd was Laticka Thomas.
- b. Fastest Walkers: 10 km  
1st was Eunice Graham, 2nd was Arlice McKay, and 3rd was Traffic Man Tony.
- c. Top Fundraisers:  
1st was Pam Powell; 2nd was Eunice Graham and 3rd was Gifford Walker.

Deep gratitude to our Walkathon patrons: Alton Telfer, Gifford Walker, Herrol Mattocks, Eunice Graham, Pam Powell, and Sandra Young.

I want to give a huge thank you to the Planning Committee members: Lisa Crowell, Samantha-Rae Maclean, Olivia Hedge-Howell, Eunice Graham, Audrey Campbell, Adaoma Patterson, Herrol Mattocks, Sandra Young, David Betty, and Michelle Dolly-McKenzie.

The total amount raised by the JCA was \$14,083.70. The Committee allocated funds to the Denham Jolly and Walk Good Scholarships, the Building Fund and SMTP.

ii. **GIVING TUESDAY CAMPAIGN 2023** - We raised \$11,300 in the campaign! We raised \$6,300 which was matched by Kamala-Jean Gopie's generous gift of \$5,000 in a matching campaign again this year. Thank you to everyone who donated and for inviting your families and friends to donate, as well.

iii. **ANNUAL DONATIONS** – Online donations received in the fiscal year (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024) are outlined below based on the online platform where the donation was made. For donations we receive by cash, cheque, or e-transfer those are entered into Micharity for tax receipting purposes:

- a. Via CanadaHelps = \$3,932 with 42 donors
- b. Via MiCharity = \$111,184 with 752 donors

Our donations were down 14% from last year due to the higher cost of living everyone is experiencing. In addition, CanadaHelps reported in its Giving Report 2024 that the percentage of Canadians giving has declined over the past 17 years. In 2004, 25.4% of Canadians donated to registered charities but by 2021 only 17.7% of Canadians reported making donations. CanadaHelps reviewed tax data from the CRA. Tax data are incomplete because they exclude donations people make to organizations and causes that cannot issue tax receipts, but that data provide us with some context. Giving declined the most amongst Canadians who live in urban areas and youth. It was said that was due to high inflation and increased housing unaffordability for those groups.

Donation tax receipts for 2023 were emailed and mailed to donors on February 25, 2024. Most donors received their receipts, but we had a few errors and we worked quickly to correct those. We continue to update the database and ensure the information is entered correctly.

iv. **GRANTS** - the JCA received the following grants:

- a. **Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative** – approved our application of \$79,000 to renovate the bathrooms by replacing the toilets, installing sensors on the faucets, toilets, and urinals, and electric hand dryers. This will allow us to stop using paper towels in the bathrooms, which reduces waste and the maintenance of the bathrooms when guests flush paper towels down the toilets. This work will start next month.
- b. **Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF)** – Capital Grant – we received \$149,000 to repave the parking lot and renovate the kitchen. The parking lot and driveway look wonderful and really improve the curb appeal of the Centre. The kitchen renovations have started with new flooring, cabinets, countertops, and stoves.
- c. **New Horizons for Seniors 2023-2024 Grant** – we received a grant of \$24 900 to support the Caribbean Seniors Group. The funds supported their weekly programming to increase digital literacy, improve health and wellness, and reduce feelings of isolation. The final report was submitted last month.
- d. **Toronto Community Foundation** - Community Services Recovery Grant – funding of \$62,000 was awarded to us to improve the capacity of the JCA. These funds are supporting the creation of our new strategic plan, updating our HR policies and procedures, crafting a new fundraising plan, and carrying out technological improvements. This work will be completed in June.
- e. **Black Creek Community Health Centre** – our community partner, Black Creek Community Health Centre provided us with \$60,000 to support the health and well-being of Black communities, specifically students and families in the Saturday Morning Tutorial Program (SMTP) and the Caribbean Canadian Seniors Group. We have until the end of 2024 to complete these activities.
- f. **Foundation for Black Communities Grant 2024** – we received \$38,000 and have partnered with the Toronto Metropolitan University on the Black Legacies project. Professors Melanie Knight and Anne Mare Lee-Low along with student research assistants will digitize our documents in the resource centre. Important cultural artefacts such as the Hon. Marcus Garvey's chair, ludi boards, and domino tables will be captured in 3-D. These digital resources will be used to create interactive learning materials documenting the JCA's contributions and connecting these to the Ontario secondary curriculum for students to explore.

Online donations and payments continue to be facilitated through our website as well as event registrations.



## Director of Fundraising Report continued

### IV. SPONSORSHIPS

Over this past year, we received sponsorships for our various events and programs. Our sponsors included:

- Carpenters Union, Local 27
- Ellis Don Corporation
- Benjamin Law
- Toronto Metropolitan University

### V. STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

**Black UrbanismTO** – JCA continues to support Black UrbanismTO (BUTO). By trustee grants received from the Metcalf and the Atkinson Foundations. BUTO completed research and community engagement work exploring creating a Community Land Trust in Little Jamaica to keep commercial property owned by local, Black-led businesses and community members. Last month, they launched their report and discussed the next steps in their work, including raising funds by issuing community bonds to purchase commercial property in the area.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

i. 42nd annual Walk Good Walkathon – the Walkathon was held on Sunday, May 5. We had a lot of fun walking with members of the Ardenne Alumni Association and Jamaica Foundation Hamilton. We had a DJ, lots of prizes and giveaways, and refreshments that were donated by Epiphany Restaurant. We are reconciling the donations and will know the total amount raised soon.



**Boonoonoonos Brunch**

**KEYNOTE** **EVENT HOST** **PERFORMERS**

Hon. Dr. Jean Augustine Charles Mathews Elite Dancers

**AWARDEES**

Pastor Eddie Jjumba Dr. Andrew Campbell Pastor Judith James

**Black Resistance** Sunday February 11, 2024  
Time 1:00 - 5:00 pm  
Tickets \$65  
995 Arrow Road, North York, ON

Jamaican Canadian Community Centre  
www.jcaontario.org  
fundraising@jcaontario.org

@jcaontario @jamaicancanadianassociation



**41<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL 'WALKGOOD' WALKATHON**

Stay healthy!!

Support your team!

The community hub for over 60 years

Join us for our IN-PERSON + VIRTUAL EVENT!

SAVE THE DATE. Sunday May 7, 2023

Jamaican Canadian Community Centre  
995 Arrow Road, Toronto, ON  
www.jcaontario.org  
fundraising@jcaontario.org

Ardenne Alumni Toronto Chapter

Jamaica Foundation Hamilton



**PACU**  
BUILDING WEALTH THROUGH UNITY  
www.pacu.ca  
info@pacu.ca

**Community Consultations on PACU  
A Proposed Black-Owned Credit Union**

The PACU Steering Committee and Research Advisory Committee invite Black Ontarians to share their insights into how the establishment of a new Pan-African Credit Union (PACU) can contribute to the promotion and sustainability of Black success in Ontario.

April to June 2024

10 virtual and in-person sessions will be held in the following regions:

- Brampton, Toronto, Durham Region
- Ottawa
- Windsor/Chatham area

For more info on the sessions and to register, scan the QR code or call 647-765-5304  
Refreshments will be served at all in-person consultations. Transit fares will be provided upon request.

Scan QR code for times and locations

An Initiative of

Jamaican Canadian Association

AFRO CARIBBEAN BUSINESS NETWORK

Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community & Diaspora

TORONTO

Black Opportunity Fund

CONFRONTING ANTI-BLACK RACISM

education YORK U

Network for the Advancement of Black Communities

Réseau pour l'avancement des communautés noires





## Director of Communications | Kashane Denton **REPORT**

### Acknowledgements

- Thank you, to my Board colleagues, for continuing to push through and give of themselves to keep our organization growing.
- To Horace Wright for supporting JCA's technology advancements and diving into the background work for effective communications.
- To the Membership Services Committee Chair, Lisa Rutty, who ensures JCA is represented wherever possible and for driving Membership growth.
- To our partners, new and renewed for continuing to see and share the value of our organization and helping us to support our community.
- To Kellie Spence for continuing to support us through large asks and tight deadlines.
- Thank you to everyone who assisted the communications team in any way possible. We appreciate everyone who has provided feedback, suggestions and most importantly their time to help move our mandate along.

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

The communication team continues to work to support our goals of ensuring continued visibility and increased reach for the organization. We continue to utilize our digital channels for information sharing. We continue to execute new strategies, pursue new partnerships, and engage the community to remain a recognizable brand.

The communications team continues to distribute the weekly updates of events and initiatives to our members and supporters. Alongside the Board and Committees, we supported both virtual and hybrid virtual events. We continue to facilitate online committee meetings and events. This included virtual and hybrid events, social nights, and various webinars and educational sessions.

We have continued to post content to our social media pages as we use this method to bring awareness to various events and topics. We are always looking for people to participate so feel free to share your suggestions with the communications team. Communications supported online ticket sales and promotion for several events this year and actively participated in planning on various event committees.

We continue to move the work forward on updating our website through new partnerships and with the leadership of our Director-at-Large, Horace Wright, have secured a new company to complete our Hall Rental Portal with funding received through the work of Michelle Davis our Fundraising Director.

We have started to offer paid advertising as a pilot in our newsletters. To date we have had two purchases, not a lot but it is just the beginning. We intend to review guidance and continue to roll this out as a fundraising venture to include space on our website.

A partnership agreement is in place with Astro Sankofa Art Initiatives to create a mural with the City of Toronto. The City of Toronto will pay for installation and upkeep for ~5 years. The work is scheduled to begin in June with artwork on the sides of the building.

### Growth & Engagement

Our reach continues to grow and can be tracked through the rising engagement, traffic to our pages and website and a growing number of direct requests to partner with the organization. Our mailing list has grown to now over 1700 persons subscribed, a 180-person increase since last year.

### Communication Committee Members

Kashane Denton (Chair)  
Camille Renee  
Sutanya Brown

[www.jcaontario.org](http://www.jcaontario.org)  
[communications@jcaontario.org](mailto:communications@jcaontario.org)  
416-746-5772

## Thank You !!

Our Social Media reach continues to expand. At the time of writing this report we have:

YouTube: Our channel now has 584 subscribers, up by 11.

Instagram: Our page now has 4147 followers, up by 347, with a 30% interaction rate and an average of 426 views per post.  
X (formerly Twitter): now has 5098 followers, up by 47, with an average reach of 680 views per post.

Facebook: We have 6002 followers on Facebook, up by 40, with an average reach of 6500 persons per month and 653 average engagements.

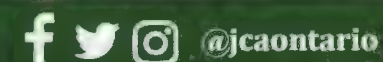
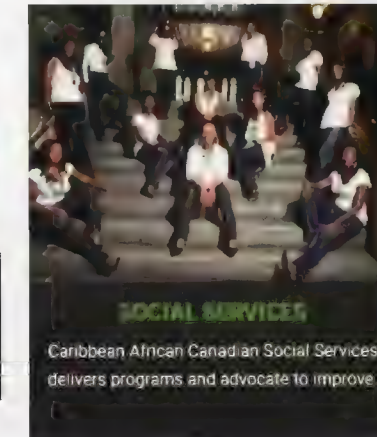
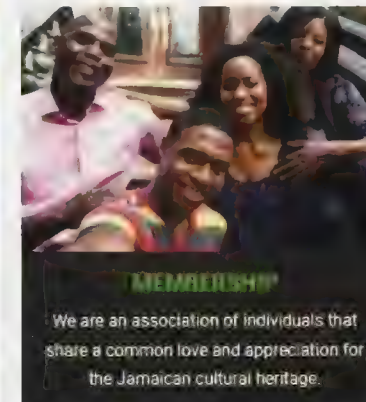
Google Business Profile: Our Google Business Profile has been very active and has generated an average monthly of 241 visits to our website and an average of 1615 interactions (calls, emails, directions).

This represents over 500 new people reached across our platforms. If you have not yet subscribed or follow us on social media, please do so and encourage your connections to subscribe to our mailers to stay in the know.

We continue to grow and the increasing interest in our website and other platforms reflects an interest in our organization and activities. Our demographic continues to reflect a majority in the 35 – 44 age group with the 25 – 34 age group gaining traction at a close second.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

In the coming year we will continue to focus on continuity in branding, strategies that drive engagement and the generation of funds through leverage of our media and digital communications. We will also continue to support the overall goals of the organization and various committees.







Director-At-Large | Benito Palomino

## REPORT

### Acknowledgements

- Members of the Board, for their continued guidance, insight and wisdom.

### Summary of Activities for Last Year Overview of Year

The portfolio of Director-at-Large undertakes administrative and organisational tasks essential to the internal control stability as well as to maintain regulatory efficiency. In addition, this portfolio recognises the need to advocate and provide support that enables the well-being of the several community groups that the JCA serves.

Collectively, the JCA discharges this responsibility through the Director-at-Large portfolio by working with individuals, organizations and fellow board members to assist in the conceptualising, development and implementation of strategic policy decisions that enhance and impact these community groups and the JCA's standing and goodwill.

In addition, assignments that the President and Vice-President mandated as requiring the assistance of the Director-at-Large were actioned and carried out. Further particulars of those assignments appear below.

### Advocacy Engagement

#### Community Response to Guns and Gangs Violence

- Commencing in November 2020 this group has been actively engaged in planning the increased capacity of social services support, advocating for the increase in funding required to achieve the development of support infrastructure; and the recognition for training in emergency response personnel to incorporate not only police services but more appropriate counselling and mental health services. Advocating for a more coordinated response from all agencies requiring the implementation of a secretariat as well as participation in the budgetary process of the Regional Municipalities and continued meetings for strategic representation were seen as critical success factors. The focus of the group since the start of 2024 was to attempt to continue to build community awareness and engagement but activity has been stymied and it is hoped that all stakeholders will resume meeting by the second quarter of the year and prior to the start of the summer when records show an increase in gun and gang violence.

#### Race Board Data Collection Town Hall partnership with JCA

Following up on the report for the second phase of discussions – Understanding Arrest and Release interactions. This phase of discussions offered meaningful conversations with the community stakeholders. This continuous engagement continued into May with further meetings held with the community agencies and stakeholder groups. As a follow up, further meetings with the steering committee are being planned and further information on this will be disclosed.

#### Pan African Credit Union (PACU) – Steering Committee Work

The JCA continues to play a pivotal role in bringing this project to fruition. Quite apart from the extensive work done in conjunction with other stakeholders, interactive town halls are being held to sensitize leaders of Black organizational network, particularly within the community-based, business, and entrepreneurship as well as faith-based organizations and these meetings are ongoing. Work surrounding the regulatory application continues and is being reviewed by the regulatory agency FSRA in conjunction with our consultants, KPMG, members of the inaugural board, and the steering committee. Steering Committee meetings are held weekly in addition to other meetings the committee holds with our consultants and other focus groups. The inaugural advisory group meets monthly to build out the strategic plan for the credit union so it will be fully functional at launch. Approval of the license is now expected within the last quarter of 2024.

### Disciplinary Hearing of Supt. Stacy Clarke

By way of update, we advised that Supt. Clarke's sanction hearing was held earlier this month over three days, and sentencing has been reserved for later this year. A profound round of thanks must be made to the several JCA members who gave their support at each day of the sanction hearing. Thanks particularly to Past President Audrey Campbell, and our active benefactor Mr. Denham Jolly, and Past President Roy Williams. The JCA made its position clear through in-person support and written expression of its concern for the apparent racial undertones of the action taken against Supt. Clarke.

We will continue to monitor this issue.

### Caribbean Farm Workers Update

Further contact has been made with the Toronto Police Department who has expressed interest in working with the JCA and discussions are ongoing.

There have been further issues concerning the working conditions and welfare of the farm workers particularly those from Jamaica. Reports have been made to us of at least one fatality earlier this year. We note that the responsible Minister led a delegation recently to determine firsthand the conditions on these farms and the Minister gave reports that he appeared satisfied with the program and general work conditions.

### Equity Stream Partnership Initiative

JCA has been introduced to the CCYSR (Catholic Community Services of York region) to possibly collaborate on a mutually rewarding initiatives through the Equity Stream Funding Program. This collaboration is ongoing and further synergistic opportunities to reward both organisations are being worked on.

### Strategic Planning

During the first quarter of the year the Board hosted a strategic planning workshop to roadmap initiatives to grow the programs of the JCA. The process is ongoing.

### HR Policy Review

During the year a Board sub-committee met with a consultative group to begin to develop several policies surrounding HR governance. The process is ongoing.

### Endowment Policy and Procedure

Work continues around the draft policy and procedure being led by the President, Director of Fundraising and the Director-at-Large. The draft is expected to be ready during the new fiscal year.

### Hall Rental Agreement Review

The new Hall Rental Agreement has now been implemented. A meeting was held with the client stakeholder group to obtain their valuable feedback. It is expected that minor reviews will continue over time. The purpose of the review process was to strengthen accountability, financial control, and to limit JCA's liability by users of its space. Director Charles spearheaded the effort and will speak further on the objectives met.







Director-At-Large | Charles Gordon

## REPORT

### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the board for their continued support and encouragement.

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

#### Men's Health Initiative

As we continue to bring awareness to men's health, we successfully staged an event on January 13, 2024, right here at the JCA. We did this in collaboration with our friends from the Walnut Foundation. Other stakeholders included TAIBU Community Health Centre, University Health Network, Princess Margaret Hospital, Dr. Upton Allen's group from Sick Kid's Hospital (Seromark Vaccine Study), Jamaica Ex-Soldiers Association, Jamaica Ex-Firefighters Association, and the Alliance of Jamaican Alumni Associations (AJAA).

Special thanks to the office of the Consulate General of Jamaica, Toronto, and in particular the Consul General Kurt Davis on the message he delivered to those present.

This event was a very important step in the direction we are taking as we focus on men's health within our community. We had over a hundred men in attendance with the majority getting a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test. We served a hot lunch, thanks to our friends from the Walnut Foundation. We also had barbers on hand giving free haircuts and masseuse services for those who needed physical stress relief. Media coverage was provided by CityNews and was also shared on numerous social media platforms.

My next area of focus regarding men's health in our community is men's mental health. We want to shed some light on the "MEN" in Mental Health. This is an area which has a lot of challenges and is not easy to detect. For a lot of men in our community the responsibility of living up to the expectations and demands of their day-to-day lives can sometimes become overwhelming. In fact, the state of one's mental health in most instances will directly impact our physical well-being. Our efforts, however, are multi-dimensional. So, we will be exploring all areas of health among our Afro-Canadian community.

To that end, I was also able to engage and share our vision with the folks at Caribbean African Regenerative Medicine (CARM). This is the brainchild of Dr. Jacqui Getfield. We recently had a meeting with Doctors Carl James and Istvan Musci along with Dr. Getfield and our President David Betty and Vice president Michelle McKenzie Dolly. CARM focuses on kidney health among Afro-Canadians in the GTA and surrounding areas. Just to expand on what regenerative medicine is all about, I will explain it in this way. If you break a bone or scrape your elbow or even cut yourself, the body is able to heal itself. But that is not the case with certain conditions like diabetes, kidney or heart disease. Regenerative medicine is changing that. It is a new field in which experts are looking for therapies and strategies similar to the mechanisms that help your body heal itself. Mental health still remains a focus, but we are also aware that all health concerns not only affect the mental health of the persons experiencing it, but also those close family and friends who also have their mental health challenged as they provide support.

We will continue to amplify our efforts in men's health in our community and shine the spotlight on what matters most with the hope that our members can live a long, healthy and fulfilling life.

### Hall Rental & Facility Improvements


Under the supervision of our acting Operations Supervisor Herrol Mattocks we have begun to see some improvements in the facility here at the JCA. Most noticeably for those present here today is the re-paving of the parking. Doesn't it look great? For Herrol and his team, the assimilation and transition into this position comes from a place of familiarity. We are confident that he will continue to have processes in place to enhance a continued smooth hall rental operation. Plans are also underway to have another meeting and converse with our patrons who are loyal renters of the hall to gauge their satisfaction. Any further developments will be reported in our next quarterly meeting.

### Benevolent Fund (Bereavement)

This continues to be a work in progress. Funding for this undertaking continues to be a challenge and all areas are being explored. We will continue to look at options in an effort to get this venture off the ground. Any development in this area will be shared as soon as it becomes available.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities




- There will be a continuum in the evolvement of the Hall Rental Agreement.
- The focus on men's health in our community will continue to be a priority.
- Exploring the possibility of establishing a benevolent fund. The purpose of this is to assist members of the JCA as they deal with the unexpected financial challenge they face when an immediate family member (child, parent, spouse) transitions. This initiative is in a very embryonic stage right now and will require a lot of thought and discussion. It will require some advisory as to the level of support to be offered. A fundraising plan will need to be developed and a procedure for managing funds. It will be a lot of work if we can pull this off, but it is a great way to give back to the community we serve.



**THE WALNUT FOUNDATION**  
info@thewalnutfoundation.com (905)-799-2759

**Prostate Health in Black Men  
ENDING THE CYCLE OF SILENCE**

**For Caribbean, West African and Black Men**

**Ken Noel**  
President

**Anthony Henry**  
First-Vice President


**Winston Klass**  
Director, Support Group

**Sunday  
March 19, 2023**

**Time: 3:00 pm**  
**FREE HYBRID EVENT**

Meeting ID: 881 2058 8987 Passcode: 0995

**We bring awareness about Prostate Cancer to the  
Black community through education**



**Jamaican Canadian Community Centre**  
995 Arrow Road, North York, ON

**IN-PERSON VENUE**

Men's Health & Wellness Support





Director-At-Large | Horace Wright

## REPORT

### Acknowledgements

- As a new director, thank you to the Board for their onboarding support.

### Strategic Priority Areas

- Youth
- Culture
- Advocacy
- Education

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

#### Saturday Morning Tutorial Program (SMTP) Support

##### Objectives

SMTP and JCA advocacy with students & educators to collaborate, offer support, and source additional volunteers.

**Activity 1** Prudence Betty, Sandra Young and Horace Wright attended Downsview as JCA representatives on March 31, 2023.

##### Outcome

- 4 new SMTP students.
- York U teachers college identified as potential source of volunteer tutors (feedback pending from Amani Kwadwo Ausar).
- Visit to JCA by Downsview Collegiate educator (Amani), with his proposal to bring in additional educators to view the SMTP and identify other opportunities to support the program.

**Activity 2** Downsview Collegiate Proposal: Conduct SMTP at Downsview premises

Amani Kwadwo Ausar raised the idea of putting a proposal to the TDSB to move the SMTP to Downsview Collegiate.

##### Benefits

- No cost to JCA if this is put in place.
- Proximity for SMTP attendees and increased potential for additional attendees.
- Ability to use the JCA hall for revenue generating activities.

##### Drawbacks

- Potential impact on the JCA brand.
- Potential disassociation from JCA due to use of different premises, which could result in long term erosion of generational continuity.

##### Outcome

- Put the proposal to a vote at the board meeting on 27 April 2023. The board concluded that it was not in JCA's best interest to move the SMTP to a site other than the Jamaican Canadian Centre. However, the board was willing to entertain a hybrid hub run out of Downsview Collegiate. Communicated the decision to Amani for his follow up with his board. No further news at this time.

#### Activity 3 Manage Laptop Donation from the National Bank Financial Group

- 8 Laptops were donated by the National Bank to be used for the SMTP program.
- The laptops were provided in May 2023, and are company refurbished, and tested to be in good working order, ready for use, with the following specifications:
  - THINKPAD Carbon X1 G7, I5, 16G, Windows 10 Professional (updated to Windows 11) 256GB.
  - Valuation per unit is \$450, and the total value of the 8 laptops is therefore \$3,600.

##### Outcome

- The laptops will be managed by SMTP coordinators; Prudence Betty or Horace Wright for use by SMTP.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

#### File restore & forms digitization initiative

- Challenges exist with finding current, standard templates of all JCA forms.
- The need exists to digitize and standardize JCA forms.
- Standardization of key processes required (or validation of existing key processes).
- President will provide access to Director 3 to server folder .
- Director 3 to engage with Comp Sci volunteer students to project manage and execute identified needs.
- Director 3 to work with relevant board members to determine what needs to be done.
- Execute projects on an interactive / incremental basis.







**Building Chair | Herrol Mattocks**

**COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**Acknowledgements**

- JCA Board, Committees and our Volunteers.
- Special thanks to our Building Committee Members who always answer the call.
- Noel Lewis and Alvin Knight with the building. Janet Samms and Mary Green for managing our Coat Check.
- Desmond Marrick, Cavin Johnson, and Wayne Emmanuel for the job they do.
- Thanks to Jennifer McFarlane and Aida Kurman for their work.

**Summary of Activities for Last Year**

- Painted halls prior to 2023 Gala.
- Continue with replacement of ballast lights with led panel lights.
- Various maintenance issues were addressed, including building improvements.
- Scoped out the building drainage.
- Re-paved the parking lot.
- Replaced the tile on the kitchen floor with Epoxy coating, as well as the storage rooms and hall 2 passageway to halls 2 and 3 washrooms and kitchen.
- Replacing the kitchen cabinets and countertop.
- Organized a spring clean-up day.
- Installed new touchless toilets in the kitchen washrooms.

**Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities**

- Renovate washrooms and upgrade with touchless fixtures.
- Replace bar 1 countertop and cupboards.
- Remove and replace counter tops in hall 2 washrooms.
- Install more cameras to improve security.
- Replace bar coolers / fridge.
- Continue with replacement of led panels lights.
- Minor repair and paint of the TDSB space.

**Building Committee Members**

Herrol Mattocks, Building Chair  
Janet Samms, Recording Secretary  
Dorrett Thompson, Treasurer  
Michelle Davis, Director of Fundraising  
Alvin Knight  
Glen Gordon  
Owen Dunbar  
Barbara Thomas  
Mary Green

Hyacinth Wilson  
Sandra Young  
Eunice Graham  
Gifford Walker  
Monty Noel  
Dean Parker

**Thank You !!**



## Hall Rental Client Information Session



Celebrating over 60 years as the community hub



Learn about

Facilities For Rent

Rental Terms + Conditions

Alcohol Permits and Licenses

RSVP: [info@jcaontario.org](mailto:info@jcaontario.org) by Thursday April 27

 **Sunday**  
**April 30, 2023**

 **Starts 2:00 pm**

**HYBRID EVENT**

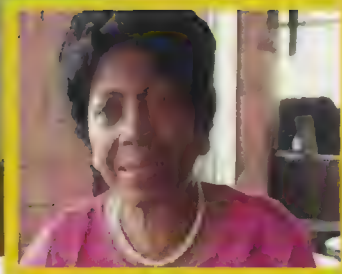
 **The JCA Community Centre, Hall 3**  
**OR Zoom**

Jamaican Canadian Community Centre  
995 Arrow Road, North York, ON  
[www.jcaontario.org](http://www.jcaontario.org)  
647-552-3258

   @jcaontario  
 @jamaicancanadianassociation

Stay social  
Stay connected





**Chair, Caribbean-Canadian Senior's Committee | Pam Reynolds**  
**COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**Acknowledgements**

Membership attendance has increased since last year, and there are members attending from the wider community and surrounding areas. I also want to acknowledge the following new members who joined during 2023-2024:

|                       |                        |                           |                         |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Joyce Walton          | Nehemiah Bailey        | Denise Wynter             | Ivy Stanley             |
| Edris Wells-Fagan     | <u>Valrie Voilet</u>   | <u>Angela Williamson</u>  | <u>Desrene Rennie</u>   |
| Doreen Blair          | Beverly Chambers       | <u>Elaine Bleadille</u>   | <u>Florance Coulman</u> |
| <u>Monica Darkins</u> | Joanna Edwards         | Meredith Lloyd Richardson | Nadine Morgan           |
| <u>Dean Paker</u>     | Ms. Patsy Paul         | <u>Esel Murray</u>        | <u>Lurina McPherson</u> |
| Whitney Messam        | Edna Marshall          | Agatha Hutchinson         | Mazie Miller            |
| Rudolph Lewis         | Hyacinth Jones         | Maureen Scott             | Wilber Johnson          |
| <u>Sweenie Gordon</u> | Sylvan Grier           | Herman Stewart            | <u>Dezlin West</u>      |
| Ms. Ellen Wynter      | <u>Lelia Harnarain</u> | Bibi Heck                 | Chaplin Alexander       |

**Summary of Activities for Last Year**

The Seniors Group was closed from December 14, 2023, to March 5, 2024, for winter break. CCSG opened March 5, 2024, and members came out in full force. We welcomed new members who registered with us and those who renewed their membership. We had 75% of our members return on the first day back at the Centre.

Since reopening, we have had several great presentations on topics such as: fraud and scams, elder abuse, seniors housing, and a health fair for seniors by Black Creek group. On March 26, 2024, the Book Club ventured on a field trip to watch Migration at the Cineplex Theatre at Yorkdale Mall. We have had excellent speakers for our programmes. To celebrate International Women's Day, we attended a screening of the Honourable Jean Augustine documentary hosted by CAFCAN.

CCSG ended this March 2024 in a positive light and was able to make a \$2000 donation to the JCA.

The CCSG team is positioning itself to increase membership, improve programmes offered, and assist our seniors in accessing help in the community, thereby making their lives easier and better.







**Charmaine Jackson**



**Adrine White**

## **Chairs, International Students**

### **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

### **Acknowledgements**

A big thank you to the following persons for their support and contribution to our success:

- Charmaine Jackson – Co-Chair
- Andrine White– Co-Chair
- Deyonta McPherson – Events & Peer Support
- Kerry- Ann Ramsay – Administrative & Peer Support

### **Summary of Activities for Last Year**

For the current year, we have 498 members in our current telegram group, which has increased over the last year. Our members are located all over Canada, including NB, NS, PEI, Alberta, and Ontario (within and outside the GTA). Students have been moving to other provinces to either gain Permanent Residency or for cheaper cost of living, but they have all started out in Ontario. There has been some restructuring of the group this year and the new supporting members are listed above. We will be seeking to add more volunteers in the coming year based on demand and skillset.

Our programs are generally virtual via Zoom seeing that the group is scattered within Canada and are geared towards the needs of the target market which includes immigration sessions, peer support, health and wellness, and career building. Feedback is normally acquired before and after the sessions to determine what programs to focus on in the future. This approach has served us well in the planning of workshops we have hosted.

Our last event was in April where we had an Immigration session with Jodi-Ann Francis where 30+ individuals were in attendance, most of whom are in the GTA and New Brunswick.

We are in partnership with Humber College who is currently doing a 3-year study on International Students. We are currently in year 2. This study has taken the form of students focus groups based and is exploring their experiences as international students and the challenges they faced during that time. After the study, once finalized, the report will be shared with the JCA.

### **Successes and Accomplishments**

- Ongoing engagement with current and past international students who support each other based on their own lived experiences.
- We have an ongoing partnership with a few Immigration Consultants who dedicate their time to do free immigration workshops on the rapid immigration changes that happens within Canada.
- Facilitating the Humber Research Project.
- Offering peer support and providing next steps and suggestions to persons in need of information.
- Also, providing gift cards for purchasing food items for some students in need.

### **Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities**

- Having workshops to cover Immigration Sessions for guidance for persons who are not yet in Canada (other Caribbean Islands including Jamaica) so they can make an informed decision in migrating to Canada before they arrive.
- Having sessions on Financial Literacy, Home Ownership (for the PR and Citizens Group), Resume & Interview Preparation guidance, and entrepreneurship guidance in how to become a business owner in Canada.
- Partner with other departments in JCA to have a Citizenship Session for persons who are PR and looking to becoming Citizens in Canada.
- Continue Peer Support and Outreach for new and existing persons within the group.
- Collaborate with other immigration professionals and recruiters to get persons coops and permanent opportunities.

Canadian International Student Group Event (CISG)  
- Christmas Dinner Speaker - Nacore Stewart - Police Officer







Chair, Education & Culture | Phiona Lloyd-Henry COMMITTEE UPDATE

## Acknowledgements

Education & Culture thanks the following members for their support and contributions:

- Michelle McKenzie Dolly – Vice President, JCA
- Prudence Betty – SMTP Lead Coordinator
- Horace Wright – Director-at-Large & SMTP Coordinator

## Summary of Activities for Last Year

For the current program year, we have a total of 57 students enrolled, which is similar to last year as some students are no longer in high school and the new registrants are just about equal to those who left. Our students are from all over the GTA, one registrant in Manitoba, one in New Brunswick and one in Jamaica. We have been supported by 14 tutors, one of whom is new for this academic year, and they support us from all over the GTA, with one in Ottawa. We have one designated French Tutor and two others who assist as needed. The program is being run in a hybrid format and is managed by two Coordinators. A decision was made to provide hybrid sessions because there are students who joined us during COVID, and they now live a considerable distance away so to continue supporting them we do online sessions via Zoom. Online sessions also allow us to tap into university students who are away and who still wish to volunteer. Parental feedback is encouraging as there are a few students in the program who have seen significant improvement in their grades as well as their confidence.

Last summer, our program ran for three weeks during which we had a series of workshops including, Leadership, Financial Literacy, STEM, Public Speaking, Study Skills, Poetry, Building Self Esteem, Credit Card, Nutrition, Cultural and Spoken Word together with daily career talks from Black professionals and entrepreneurs from various fields including Dentistry, Law, Design, Architecture, Poets, Educators, Authors and the Trades to showcase Black excellence. This was attended by over 30 students from all over the GTA, Northern Ontario and Jamaica. We wrapped up with a demo from Chef Leon.

I facilitated sessions for parents to provide them with information on navigating the school system, reading/ interpreting report cards, and how to assist their children in choosing courses. The Education Committee facilitated an insightful panel discussion on the state of education for Black children and as a follow up we are partnering with GMS to host an Excellence Conference in June.

We had a wellness session for students and tutors arranged by Dr. Sylvanus Thompson who continues to support our vision of enriching the lives of the participants of the Saturday Morning Program as well as their parents and caregivers.

## Successes and Accomplishments

- Ongoing community engagement through partnership with schools in the Toronto District School Board has increased registrants.
- We have an ongoing partnership with Ontario Tech University who have been running STEM workshops.
- One female student performed a dance at Breakfast with Santa and a male student performed a poem which he wrote at a Saturday session at the Boonoonoonoos Brunch in February and another female student performed dances at our last Scholarship event as well as the International Women's Day lunch.

## SMTP Volunteers

I also want to extend heartfelt thank you to the SMTP Volunteers without whom we could not serve the students in the SMTP. We value their time, commitment, and hard work.

Christopher Lyn  
Jerome White  
Kyle Creary  
Kara Creary  
Michelle Nash-Romain  
Taj-Rae Oliver  
Vilma Garnett  
Philip Graham

Josiah Wilson-Fletcher  
Jacob Wright  
Keisha Baker  
Andrea AOu-Hingwan  
Matthew Hwang  
Olive Edwards  
Horace Wright  
Prudence Betty



**big ups**

*& Thank You !!*

## Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

- The Excellence Conference is to be held on Saturday June 8th at the JCA Centre.
- Summer Program to run for two weeks in July and this will be in a hybrid format.
- Nutrition Workshops for participants and caregivers to be held in June.
- Another collaboration with OCADU for workshops to commence in the fall.
- Ongoing career talks utilizing Black professionals from within Canada and Jamaica. Our aim is to bring in young Black professionals and seniors from different fields in keeping with our theme of showcasing Black Excellence.
- Increase interaction with parents to improve student engagement.
- Continue Outreach to Schools within Toronto and engage schools within Peel.
- Collaborate with tutors to develop culturally appropriate programs and assessment tools.







### Acknowledgements

As an interim Chair, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Membership Events Committee for their time, talent, ideas, input, expertise, and enthusiasm, you all have made a huge impact through your dedication and support.

The committee would like to express their gratitude to the Vice President – Michelle McKenzie-Dolly for all the support she has provided to the committee.

Committee Members:

### Committe Members

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mary Green      | Hyacinth Wilson |
| Sylvia Edwards  | Barbara Thomas  |
| Dean Parker     | Alvin Knight    |
| Dorothy McCurdy | Lisa Rutty      |
| Vilma Garnett   | Anastasia Samms |
| Shirley McCoy   | Michelle Davis  |
| Jacqui Mills    | Sandra Young    |

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

The Committee successfully executed the following events:

JCA Summer Family Day Picnic held on Sunday, July 9th, 2023, at Niagara Falls (Kingsbridge Park). Family and friends of the JCA travelled to Niagara Falls for a day filled with fun, food, games and a lot of mixing and mingling.

The committee entertained & fed over 70 kids and their parents at JCA's annual Children's Christmas Party "Breakfast with Santa" held on Sunday, December 10th, 2023. All children between the ages of zero to 12 years were all provided with a gift compliments of the Jamaican Canadian Association, Toronto Area Freemasons & Project Plus.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

Join JCA Friends & Family at our annual Summer Family Fest Picnic taking place Sunday, July 14th, 2024; we will once again travel to the beautiful Niagara Falls – Kingsbridge Park for another year of fun in the sun.

- JCA Annual Children Christmas Party – more information to follow.

Membership Events Committee Members supported the following JCA Events:

- Annual Flag Raising
- Annual Gala
- Booonoonoonoos Bruch
- International Women's Day Event
- JCA Senior's Brunch



### Acknowledgements

Membership Services Thanks the following members for their support and contributions: **Thank You !!**

Dan Hamilton, Kevin Watson, Keisha Wright, Charmaine Jackson, Andrine White, and Isha Nation

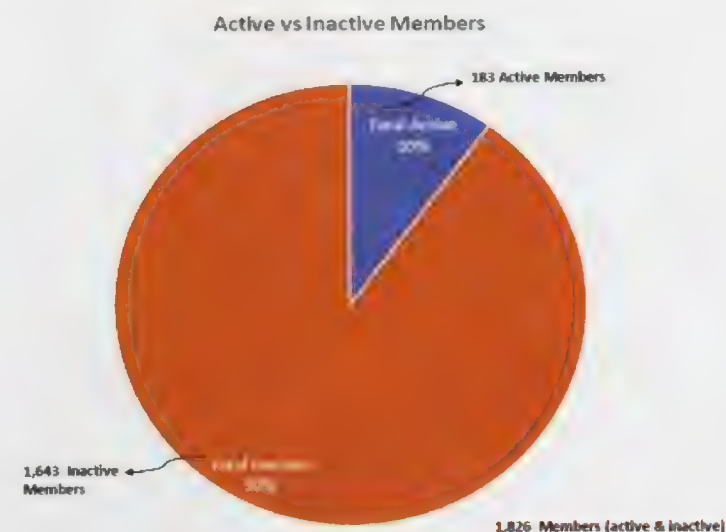
### Summary of Activities for Last Year

#### Strategic Priority Area - Community Hub fo our Members

Current state of Membership Services:

- Out of the 10% of Active members; 42% are Seniors (\$15) and 23% are lifetime members (\$0).

| Active vs Inactive Members |                |                |                  |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Active Email               | Active Address | Inactive Email | Inactive Address |
| 147                        | 36             | 1,094          | 549              |
| Total Active               |                | 183            |                  |
| Total Inactive             |                | 1,643          |                  |
| Total                      |                | 1,826          |                  |

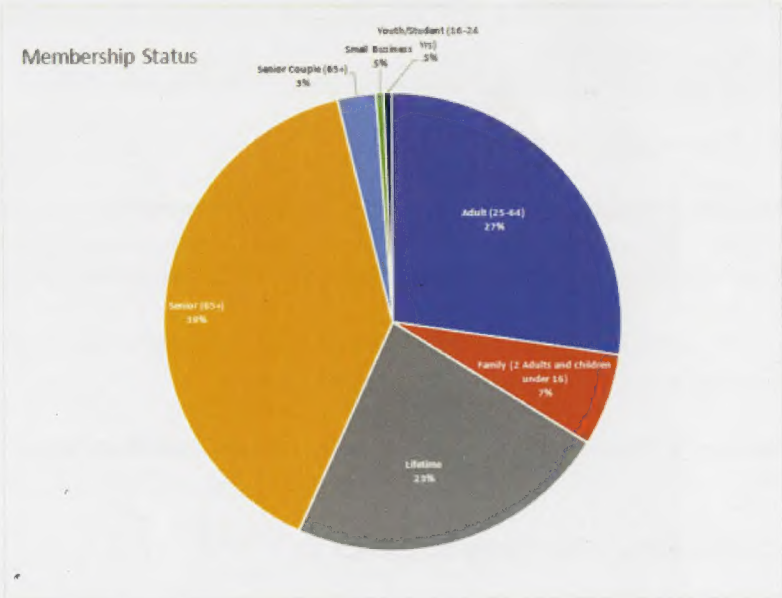


- Communication of the new benefits launches for both Individuals and Small Businesses will be sent in May. Includes the benefits of Park N Fly and Perkopolis
- Relaunch of Membership Cards is pending



| Membership Status |   |          |              |                     |  |   |
|-------------------|---|----------|--------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Adult (25-64)     | Family (2 Adults and children under 16) | Lifetime | Senior (65+) | Senior Couple (65+) | Small Busine Youth/Student (16-24 Yrs) |   |
| 50                | 12                                      | 42       | 72           | 5                   | 1                                      | 1 |

As of April 2024, Active Membership represents 10% of our database as shown in the adjacent table.



Action Items from Previous Quarterly Meetings

We are working on the preparation of a series of membership communications to update “active members” of all the benefits of the JCA, and communication to all members in our database of the benefits of renewing their membership with the JCA.

Next Steps – Upcoming Events or Activities

- 1) Development of tiered membership model
- 2) Increase interaction with members using Mi Charity
  - a. Auto renewal reminders
  - b. Special occasion auto emails (birthdays and holidays)
  - c. Weekly Newsletter
- 3) Bring back membership card (paper)
- 4) Outreach & marketing campaign
  - a. Social media campaign
  - b. JCA table at events
  - c. Identify people attending JCA activities that may not be members (e.g., tutoring program)
  - d. Create targeted campaign
  - e. Continue with Roadshows throughout GTA

[www.jcaontario.org](http://www.jcaontario.org)  
[membership@jcaontario.org](mailto:membership@jcaontario.org)  
416-746-5772







**Chair, Women's Committee | Camille Hannays-King** COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Acknowledgements

I want to extend my gratitude to the Board of Directors for their commitment, leadership, and guidance of the JCA. A big thank you to our community partners, presenters, supporters, and funders. The Women's Committee has been able to achieve more due to the generous support of our presenters, who have graciously contributed their time, expertise, and knowledge. I am grateful to the dedicated members of the Women's Committee, whose enthusiasm and dedication have made leading this committee a pleasure.

This has been an extended year as Chair of the Women's Committee and again, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to lead such a devoted group of volunteers and to utilize my skills and creativity during my tenure. I have felt quite fortunate to have the opportunity to create the UBUNTU Virtual Healing Circle and the Women Who Inspire Change Award. I will always be thankful to the JCA and especially to the members of the Women's Committee.

### Strategic Priority Area: Education

The Women's Committee organizes educational programs throughout the year that enhance community members' emotional and psychosocial well-being. These programs aim to help individuals develop resilience and cope with life challenges. All initiatives are developed collaboratively with community partners and deeply rooted in understanding culture, traditions and respect.

### Summary of Activities for Last Year

#### Health and Wellness Symposium

The Health and Wellness Symposium "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind, Healthy Me" was held in October. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Crystal Clark, and included presenters Dr. Karlina Mitchell, Natasha Ngindi, Anthony Henry, and Paula Hurlock. The symposium was enriching and empowering, featuring presentations and discussions on Black Maternal Mental Health, Prostate Cancer, Nutrition, Mindfulness, and Natural Healing. The presenters provided comprehensive and timely information and resources to help attendees expand their knowledge and improve their well-being. The feedback from this symposium was overwhelmingly positive.

#### International Women's Day, "Women Recognizing Women" Women Who Inspire Change Award

On Sunday, March 10th we were thrilled to host our 24th Annual International Women's Day event, "Women Recognizing Women," along with our Women Who Inspire Change Awards. This event is significant for the Women's Committee as it is a day that we commemorate and celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness of women's equality, and promote equity. The theme for 2024 IWD was #InspireInclusion.

The "Women Who Inspire Change" award was created to honour and celebrate "ordinary women" from our community who use their skills, gifts, and talents to do extraordinary things in their professions and the community, inspiring change in others and society. This year, we were proud to honour and recognize six women who have made significant contributions to the arts and culture sector and presented them with awards. These honorees were Yvonne Francis, Nadine Williams, Wendy Jones, Dr. Kathy Moscou, and Sandra Whiting.

Our guest speaker was writer, radio host, and TV personality Bee Quammie, and the event host was Spoken Word Poet Amoya Ree. The audience was entertained by performances from Singers Margaret Williams and Janisa, Violinist Jade Jarrett, and dancer Monae.

Overall, the event was a successful gathering and a wonderful opportunity to applaud the honorees for their significant contributions to the Arts.

### Other Activities: Scholarship Committee

I continued to provide support to the scholarship committee through my ongoing membership on the committee.

### Next Steps – Upcoming Activities

In the coming term, the Women's Committee will be transitioning to a new Chair.

### Women's Committee Members

Bernice Bailey  
Latifah Bishops  
Sherida Chambers  
Dr. Enid Collins  
Haslene Davis  
Sylvia Edwards  
Eunice Graham  
Helena Hayden  
Kerry-Ann Ingram  
Ismay Murray  
Shirley McDonald  
Pamela Powell  
Juliette Saunders  
Camille Hannays-King - Chair

**Thank You !!**

### EVENT PROGRAMME

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Musical Interlude                          | Jade Jarrett   |
| WELCOME                                    | Host Amoya Reé   |
| Land Acknowledgement                       | Kerry Ann Ingram   |
| National Anthem                            | Jade Jarrett   |
| Welcome                                    | David Beatty, JCA President<br>Camille Hannays-King, Chair, Women's Committee  |
| Performance                                | Amoya Reé Host   |
| Volunteer Awards                           | "Women Recognizing Women" Recipients<br>Juilett Saunders-Hill<br>Kerry Ann Ingram<br>Lisa Crowell<br>Shirley McDonald                |
| Grace<br>Buffet Lunch                      |  |
| Musical Accompaniment                      | Janisa   |
| Keynote                                    | Bee Quammie  |
| Special Performance                        | Monae  |
| Distinguished Service Award<br>Performance | Ismay Murray<br>Margaret Williams  |
| Award Presentation                         | <b>Women Who Inspire Change Recipients</b><br>Yvonne Francis<br>Nadine Williams<br>Dr. Kathy Moscou<br>Wendy Jones<br>Sandra Whiting |
| Performance                                | Margaret Williams  |





JCA relies extensively on members and volunteers to run the organization.  
We acknowledge and thank the following individuals for your commitment to JCA:

**big ups and nuff respect!!**

## Donors

### Individuals

Anna Fowles  
Beverley Johnson  
Debbie Ebanks Schlums  
Dion Bailey  
Dorothy Reid  
Dorothy Graham  
Erma Collins  
Eunice Graham  
Ezra Nesbeth  
Gervan Fearon  
Gifford Walker  
Glenford Gordon  
Herrol Mattocks  
Ivan Dawns  
Jean Carey  
Joy Johnson

Kamala-Jean Gopie  
Kashane Denton  
Lee-Anne Lyon-Bartley  
Marcia Brown Wilson  
Mark Lawson  
Mary Anne Chambers  
Nehemiah Bailey  
Nicolle Williams  
Owen Dunbar  
Pam Powell  
Patrick Bailey  
Roseanne Soso  
Stacy-Ann Buchanan  
Sylvanus Thompson  
Tiffany Harris  
Yolande Davidson

### Corporations

Arbor Memorial Foundation  
Black African Museum (BAM) & Vision in Green  
Canadian Management Group  
Caribbean Canadian Seniors Club  
Dr. Lancelot A. Brown Dentistry Professional Corporation  
Grace Foods Canada Inc.  
Henry's Records  
Humber College  
Sunbelle Realty Ltd.  
York Regional Police

*Thank you!*

*We remember those JCA members  
and volunteers who have  
transitioned in the last year.  
May they forever rest in peace.  
We thank them for their service.*

## Other Committee Volunteers

### Boonoonoonos Brunch

Adaoma Patterson  
Audrey Campbell  
David Betty  
Dr. Sylvanus Thompson (Co-  
chair)  
Herrol Mattocks  
Hyacinth Wilson  
Kashane Denton  
Michelle Davis  
Michelle McKenzie-Dolly (Co-  
chair)  
Sandra Young  
Tajmani Fagan

### Building

Alvin Knight  
Barbara Thomas  
David Betty  
Dorrett Mellis - Thompson  
Eunice Graham  
Gifford Walker  
Glenford Gordon  
Herrol Mattocks (Chair)  
Hyacinth Wilson  
Janet Samms  
Mary Green  
Michelle Davis  
Monty Noel  
Owen Dunbar  
Sandra Young

### Caribbean Seniors Club

Barbara Phillip  
Ken Bowen (Vice -Chair)  
Loy Manning  
Pam Reynolds (Chair)  
Sharon Wynter - Bowen  
Theresa Johnson  
Verna Foreman

### Communications

Camille Renee  
Kashane Denton (Chair)  
Sutanya Brown

### Education

Andrea AOu-Hingwan  
Christopher Lyn  
Horace Wright  
Jacob Wright  
Jerome White  
Josiah Wilson-Fletcher  
Kara Creary  
Keisha Baker  
Kyle Creary  
Matthew Hwang  
Michelle Nash-Romain  
Oliver Edwards  
Philip Graham  
Phiona Henry (Chair)  
Prudence Betty  
Taj-Rae Oliver  
Vilma Garnett

### Finance

Alvin Knight  
Dorrett Mellis-Thompson  
(Chair)  
Sandra Young

### International Students Group

Andrine White (Co-chair)  
Charmaine Jackson  
(Co-chair)  
Deyonta McPherson  
Kerry-Ann Ramsay

### Jamaica Independence Flag Raising Ceremony

Audrey Miller Raybould  
Jennifer McFarlane  
Keditia Crawford -Watson  
Ken Bowen  
Latoya campbell  
LeJean Lee Gordon  
Monique Walker  
Pam Reynolds  
Shalieann Brown  
Verna Foreman  
Vilma Garnett  
Shauna-Kay Cassell

### JCA Anniversary/Jamaica Independence Gala

Adaoma Patterson  
Audrey Campbell  
Audrey Miller - Raybould  
David Betty  
Dr. Sylvanus Thompson (Co-  
chair)  
Herrol Mattocks  
Hyacinth Wilson  
Julian Gonzales  
Kashane Denton  
Laticka Thomas  
Michelle Davis  
Michelle McKenzie-Dolly (Co-  
chair)  
Sandra Young  
Tajmani Fagan

### Membership Events

Alvin Knight  
Anastasia Samms  
Barbara Thomas  
Dean Parker  
Dorothy McCurdy  
Hyacinth Wilson  
Jacqui Mills  
Janet Samms (Interim Chair)  
Lisa Ruddy  
Mary Green  
Michelle Davis  
Sandra Young  
Shauna - Kay Cassell  
Shirley McKoy  
Sylvia Edwards  
Vilma Garnett  
Charles Gordon

### Membership Services

Andrine White  
Charmaine Jackson  
Dan Hamilton  
Isha Nation  
Kevin Watson  
Keisha Wright  
Lisa Ruddy (Chair)

### Nominations Committee

Alvin Knight  
Asha Hassan  
Audrey Campbell (Chair)  
Olive Parkins - Smith  
Prudence Betty

### Scholarship Committee

Camille Hannays - King  
David Betty  
Dr. Shawnee Hardware  
Dr. Vincent Conville  
Everton Grant  
Kellie Spence  
Yolande Davidson (Chair)

### Walk Good Walkathon Committee

Adaoma Patterson  
Audrey Campbell  
David Betty  
Eunice Graham  
Hermine Johnson  
Jacqui Mills  
Janet Samms  
Kashane Denton  
Lisa Crowell  
Michelle Davis (Chair)  
Michelle McKenzie-Dolly  
Olivia Hedge  
Samantha Rae McLean  
Sandra Young  
Yolande Davis



*We apologize for any  
errors or omissions*



## UPCOMING ANNUAL JCA EVENTS

# 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**APPLICATIONS WELCOME TODAY!**

**CLOSE DATE  
July 15, 2024**

**Awards Ceremony with Dinner & Dance  
Saturday September 21, 2024**

**Over 40 Unique  
Student Scholarships  
To Be Awarded**



**Jamaican Canadian Community Centre**

📍 995 Arrow Road, Toronto, ON

<https://jcaontario.org/scholarship/jcaannualscholarships/>

✉ [scholarships@jcaontario.org](mailto:scholarships@jcaontario.org)

The hub of community  
engagement since 1962

**f** **t** **@jcaontario**

**@jamaicancanadianassociation**

Delivered on an annual basis since 2002, the JCA Scholarship Program is in its milestone 22<sup>nd</sup> year. This longevity has been made possible by many longstanding donors and new annual donors, whose generosity enables the JCA to disburse over 40 scholarships each year. To date, over to \$700,000 has been awarded to deserving students. The program's continuance is also a result of the dedication and hard work of JCA Scholarship Committee members past and present.